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Montana GIS News

Natural Resource Information System--Montana State Library Volume 1, Number 2, Fall 1989

Montana GIS Meeting Set for Billings

MARK YOUR CALENDARS, TODAY! Based on an overwhelming response to the reader survey in the first issue of Montana GIS News, a Montana GIS Conference is now in the works. Over the last six weeks, a volunteer conference planning committee has put together a strong group of speakers ready to address some very pertinent topics (see preliminary agenda, enclosed).

Based on feedback from readers, early December dates (6th and 7th) were preferred. The conference will be in Billings, primarily due to the gracious offer of GeoResearch, Inc. (of Billings) to serve as host and the reasonable accommodations provided by the Sheraton. The committee was also intent on moving the conference each year; the GIS/TIGER workshop was in Helena last year; this year's event will be in Billings; next year -- the committee is looking for a host and a host city!

The day and a half conference will cost $30 (before 11/15; $40 after 11/15), including conference materials, two lunches, coffee at breaks, and two free drinks during the poster session.

"GIS User Directory" and "GIS Data Inventory" Taking Shape

After some unexpected delays, drafts of the first editions of the **Montana GIS User Directory** and the **Montana GIS Data Inventory** are now complete. In mid-October, NRIS will send "Review and Approval" Data sheets to each contributor; pending any needed corrections, the first editions of the **Directory and Inventory** will be distributed at the Montana GIS Conference in December.

If you haven't taken the time to fill out the forms to be included in the **Directory** or get your data in the **Inventory** (remember the Form A/Form B survey in the April), there's still time left. If you have questions or need forms, or simply want to convey the needed information over the phone, please call NRIS (444-5354).

State Mapping Advisory Committee Update

As planned, the State Mapping Advisory Committee (SMAC) met on August 17 to get Montana's mapping priorities to the USGS for their consideration in the FY 1990 workplan. With input from several agencies, first and second priorities were established for four map types: 1) 1:24,000 topographic revisions; 2) 1:100,000 revisions; 3) digital data both digital line graphs and digital elevation models; and 4) land-use and land-cover maps (1:250,000).

After some cordial discussion, all SMAC members agreed to the priorities. Subsequently, SMAC Chair, Don Cromer, Department of Highways, prepared and submitted the Montana's input to Lee Aggers at the USGS in Denver. Aggers has informed us that there is a very good chance Montana's priorities will be worked on this year.

Thanks to all who participated in the "A-16 process". There will be a formal briefing and poster display of the USGS mapping activities at the conference in December.

Montana GIS News

The **Montana GIS News** is written for anyone interested in mapping and using GIS. It contains material of interest to planners, foresters, scientists, cartographers, academicians, geographers, engineers, and other professionals that use spatial information. **Montana GIS News**, published quarterly by the Natural Resource Information System (NRIS) at the Montana State Library in Helena, is distributed at no charge.

We need your input! Many people have contacted NRIS asking us to get the word out on new developments in Montana regarding the use of GIS. It is important that everyone share ideas and their experiences on current projects. If you have any items or stories to include in this newsletter, please contact at (406) 444-5354, or write to the Montana State Library, GIS News, 1515 E. Sixth Avenue, Helena, MT 59620.

The **Montana GIS News** is designed to serve you and your need for current information. Your active participation will make it a useful publication.

Mark your calendars today, and plan on joining us at the Montana GIS Conference in December!

PLEASE RETURN

Mark your calendars today, and plan on joining us at the Montana GIS Conference in December!

Montana GIS News
Natural Resource Information System
1515 East 6th Ave.
Helena, MT 59620

TO:

label

MONTANA GIS USERS CONFERENCE

WHERE? BILLINGS SHERATON, BILLINGS, MONTANA

Block of lodging rooms reserved; conference rate and state employee rate available; make your own reservations with hotel (406) 252-7400.

WHEN? DECEMBER 6th, 1989, 9:00am - 5:00pm,
5:30 - 7:30 (poster session, no-host cocktails)

DECEMBER 7th, 1989, 8:30am - 1:30pm

COSTS? **$30.00 (Received by November 15, 1989)**
$40.00 (After November 15)

Make checks payable to: Montana GIS Conference

Refunds: Full refund if noticed by November 15
Half refund by December 1
No refund after December 1
Substitutions Permitted

Registration fee includes conference folder and materials, two lunches, coffee/pop at three breaks, and two drink tickets at poster session.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

NAME: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____
(street)

_____
(city) (state) (zip)

PHONE NUMBER: (_____) - _____

_____ I will attend Conference

_____ I am a Conference Speaker

_____ I will present a poster (must notify by 11/15)

_____ I am an Exhibitor (extra $50; must reserve space ASAP)

Mail registration to: Montana GIS Conference,
c/o GeoResearch, 2815 Montana Ave,
Billings, MT 59701

For more information: (406) 248-6771

MONTANA GIS USERS CONFERENCE
PRELIMINARY AGENDA

ALL SESSIONS AND EXHIBITS IN THE WOOD ROOM

Wednesday, December 6, 1989

8:00am Registration and Coffee

9:00am **Geographic Information Systems in Montana: Innovative Applications and Diverse Capabilities**

Moderator: John Wilson, MSU Geographic Information and Analysis Center

9:00 **"Planning a Successful Multi-User GIS"**
- Lania Rivamonte, Intergraph Corp.

9:40 **"Assessing Net Primary Productivity on the Global Scale"**
- Richard Ringleb, UM - Forestry

10:00 **"Using Thematic Mapper Imagery and GIS for Farmland Assessment of the Crow Indian Reservation"**
- Don Luse, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs

10:20 **Coffee Break**

10:40 **"Utilizing GIS for Air Quality Analysis"**
- Doug Richardson, Clarence Chan, and Michael Machlen, GeoRsearch, Inc.

11:00 **"Remote Sensing Applications in a GIS"**
- Jim Reid, Flathead National Forest

11:20 **"Using GIS for Montana Agriculture"**
- Jerry Neilsen, MSU - Plant and Soil Science

11:40 **Questions from the Floor and Answers from Speakers**

12:00 **Lunch Break:** SKY TOP ROOM, Catered, (part of Conference Fee)

1:15pm **Map Projections and GIS**

Moderator: Allan Cox, GIS Program, Montana State Library

1:20 **"GIS Implications of the Change from the 1927 Datum to the 1983 Datum"**
- Lee Aggers, USGS - Rocky Mountain Mapping Div.

1:40 **"An Explanation of the Montana Single Zone State Plane Coordinate System"**
- Robert Custer, Montana Department of Highways

2:00pm **Global Positioning Systems -- GPS: What is GPS? Who's Using GPS in Montana? GPS/GIS Connections**

Moderator: Lee Shanklin, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VIII, MT Office

2:00 **"GPS Introduction and Overview"**
- Lee Shanklin, EPA, Region VIII

2:20 **"GPS Data Registration and GIS Data Analysis at the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site"**
- Mike Bishop, EPA, Region VIII, Montana Office

2:40 **Coffee/Pop Break**

3:00 **"Geo-Referencing, Ground Target and Applied Field Resource Uses on the Lewis and Clark National Forest"**
- Butch Fitzpatrick, USFS, L&C National Forest

Wednesday, December 6 (Continued)

3:20 **"Blackfoot River Watershed GIS Project - Development of a Resource Management Tool"**
- Mason Hewitt, EPA, Environmental Monitoring Systems Laboratory (EMSL)

3:40 **"The Develoment of GeoLink - A Real Time Integration of GPS and GIS"**
- Dr. Thad Mauney and Aglaia Chio Fai Kong, GeoResearch, Inc.

4:20 **"GPS High Precisions Network"**
- Robert Custer, Montana Department of Highways

4:40 **"Future of GPS/GIS Applications in Montana - Problems, Solutions, Research Issues"**
- Panel of presenters

5:00pm **Adjourn**

5:30pm **Poster Session, Exhibits, Informal Q/A with Speakers**

No-host Cocktails (Two drink tickets with registration)

7:30 or 8:00 Dinner in Billings (on your own)

Thursday, December 7, 1989

8:30am **Montana GIS Update: User Group and Directory, Technical Working Group, GIS News, Data Inventory and More**
- Jon Sesso, Natural Resource Information System, Montana State Library

9:00am **Data Sources and Conversions: Limitations, Problems, and Solutions**

Moderator: Allan Cox, GIS Program, Montana State Library

9:00 **"TIGER Files: Status, Advantages/Disadvantages, Use/Conversion Issues"**
- Allan Cox, GIS Program, Montana State Library

9:20 **"GEO-DATA Products: What's Available for Montana"**
- Lee Aggers, USGS, RMMD

9:40 **"Transferring Natural Heritage Data and USGS Water Data to GIS Formats for Management Decisions: Case Studies"**
- David Genter, Montana Natural Heritage Program, and Jim Stimson, Montana Water Information System, Montana State Library

10:00 **"Data Conversion and Data Integration"**
- Dean Anderson, Environmental Systems Research Institute

10:20 **Coffee Break**

10:40 **Panel Discussion: Creating A Statewide GIS Data Base: An Overview of Options**

Moderator: Jon Sesso, NRIS Program, Montana State Library

- Scheduled speakers and other invited panelists: Minnesota GIS Bureau; Illinois GIS Unit; Utah Automated Geographic Reference

12:00 **Summary Lunch** (SKY TOP ROOM)

"Applying New Information Tools to Montana's Needs: A Cooperative Approach"
- Robert Person, Executive Director, Montana Legislative Council

1:30pm **Adjourn** (Time for related meetings and business, optional field trips, etc.)